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180/J.25237

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REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is responsive to a telephone call from Examiner Fults regarding this application. Due to a clerical error, the application as filed lacked an Abstract, and thus the applicant thanks the Examiner for requesting the addition of an Abstract.

The proposed Abstract is identical to the Abstract published by the International Bureau on 18 February 1999 for International Application No. PCT/IB98/01323. No new matter has been added. The Abstract should be added on new page 15, and for the Examiner's convenience, submitted herewith is a copy of the Abstract on separate page 15 for entry into the application.

No fee is believed to be due, but if there is a fee deficiency, please charge deposit account no. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 19 November 2001

Stephan J. Filipek Reg. No. 33,384

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